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Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

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COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE
Twelfth session
Geneva, 18-29 April 1994

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The twelfth session of the Committee against Torture will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 18 to 29 April 1994. The first meeting of the session will be convened on Monday, 18 April 1994, at 10.30 a.m.

2. In accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has prepared, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, the attached provisional agenda for the twelfth session. Annotations to the provisional agenda are also attached.

3. Pursuant to rule 31 of the rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee will be held in public unless the Committee decides otherwise or it appears from the relevant provisions of the Convention that the meetings should be held in private.

4. The attention of the States parties is drawn, in particular, to the annotations to item 7, which contain the tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the twelfth session. In accordance with rule 66 of the rules of procedure, representatives of States parties are invited to attend the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

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PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session by the representative of the Secretary-General.

2. Solemn declaration by the newly elected members of the Committee.

3. Election of the officers of the Committee.

4. Adoption of the agenda.

5. Organizational and other matters.

6. Submission of reports by States parties under article 19 of the Convention.

7. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention.

8. Consideration of information received under article 20 of the Convention.

9. Consideration of communications under article 22 of the Convention.

10. Action by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session:

    (a) Annual report submitted by the Committee under article 24 of the Convention;

    (b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights;

    (c) World Conference on Human Rights.

11. Annual report of the Committee on its activities.

ANNOTATIONS

1. Opening of the session by the representative of the Secretary-General

The twelfth session of the Committee will be opened by the representative of the Secretary-General, who will preside over the meeting until the election of the Chairman of the Committee.

2. Solemn declaration by the newly elected members of the Committee

In accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure (CAT/C/3/Rev.1), the five members of the Committee elected at the Fourth Meeting of the States parties to the Convention on 24 November 1993 will make the following solemn declaration:

> "I solemnly declare that I will perform my duties and exercise my powers as a member of the Committee against Torture honourably, faithfully, impartially and conscientiously."

3. Election of the officers of the Committee

In accordance with article 18, paragraph 1, of the Convention, and rules 15 and 16 of the rules of procedure, the Committee shall elect from among its members a chairman, three vice-chairmen and a rapporteur. The officers of the Committee shall be elected for a term of two years.

4. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the adoption of the agenda of any session shall follow the election of officers when required under rule 15. In accordance with rule 9, during a session the Committee may revise the agenda and may, as appropriate, defer or delete items; only urgent and important items may be added to the agenda.

5. Organizational and other matters

Under this item, the Committee may wish to consider its programme of work for the session, as well as any other matter concerning the modalities of discharging its functions under the Convention. In this connection, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat concerning the methods of work of other treaty bodies, as well as suggestions addressed to the Committee.

6. Submission of reports by States parties under article 19 of the Convention

It may be recalled that in accordance with rule 65 of its rules of procedure and the Committee's decisions, the Secretary-General sends reminders automatically to those States parties whose initial reports are more than 12 months overdue and subsequent reminders every six months. In the case of reports which are more than three years overdue, the Chairman of the Committee, at its request, discusses the question of reporting obligations with the representatives of the States parties concerned or addresses a letter

on the subject to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, as appropriate. With regard to reports overdue for five years or more, the Committee may decide to consider the implementation of the Convention in the States parties concerned in the absence of their report.

The situation with regard to overdue reports as at 15 February 1994 is as follows:

Initial reports

State party	Date on which the report was due
Uganda	25 June 1988
Togo	17 December 1988
Guyana	17 June 1989
Brazil	27 October 1990
Guinea	8 November 1990
Guatemala	3 February 1991
Somalia	22 February 1991
Malta	12 October 1991
Venezuela	27 August 1992
Croatia	7 October 1992
Yugoslavia	9 October 1992
Estonia	19 November 1992
Yemen	4 December 1992
Jordan	12 December 1992
Monaco	4 January 1993
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5 March 1993
Benin	10 April 1993
Latvia	13 May 1993
Seychelles	3 June 1993
Cape Verde	3 July 1993
Cambodia	13 November 1993
Czech Republic	31 December 1993
Mauritius	7 January 1994

Second periodic reports

Afghanistan	25 June 1992
Belize	25 June 1992
Bulgaria	25 June 1992
Cameroon	25 June 1992
Denmark	25 June 1992
France	25 June 1992
Philippines	25 June 1992
Russian Federation	25 June 1992
Senegal	25 June 1992
Uganda	25 June 1992
Uruguay	25 June 1992
Austria	27 August 1992
Luxembourg	28 October 1992

Second periodic reports (contd)

Togo	17 December 1992
Colombia	6 January 1993
Guyana	17 June 1993
Peru	5 August 1993
Turkey	31 August 1993
Tunisia	22 October 1993
China	2 November 1993
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	6 January 1994
Netherlands	19 January 1994

By decision of the Committee, Uganda, Togo and Guyana were requested to submit both the initial and the second periodic reports in one document.

7. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention

A tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the twelfth session, prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman and subject to approval by the Committee, is given below:

Wednesday, 20 April 1994

Switzerland: second periodic report — CAT/C/17/Add.12

Thursday, 21 April 1994

Nepal: initial report — CAT/C/16/Add.3

Friday, 22 April 1994

Greece: second periodic report — CAT/C/20/Add.2

Monday, 25 April 1994

Israel: initial report — CAT/C/16/Add.4

8. Consideration of information under article 20 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVII of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item information which is, or appears to be, submitted for its consideration under article 20 of the Convention.

In accordance with the provisions of article 20, paragraph 5, of the Convention and rules 72 and 73 of the rules of procedure, all documents and proceedings of the Committee relating to its functions under article 20 of the Convention shall be confidential and all the meetings concerning its proceedings under that article shall be closed.

9. Consideration of communications under article 22 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XIX of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are, or appear to be, submitted to it under article 22 of the Convention.

In accordance with article 22, paragraph 6, of the Convention and rule 101, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure, meetings of the Committee or its subsidiary bodies during which communications under article 22 of the Convention are examined shall be closed.

10. Action by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session

(a) Annual report submitted by the Committee against Torture under article 24 of the Convention;*

(b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights;

(c) World Conference on Human Rights.

Under this item, the Committee will have before it the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights at its fiftieth session.

11. Annual report of the Committee on its activities

In accordance with article 24 of the Convention, the Committee shall submit an annual report on its activities to the States parties and to the General Assembly.

At its second session, the Committee decided to adopt its annual report at the end of its spring session, for appropriate transmission to the General Assembly during the same calendar year. Accordingly, the annual report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session will include the activities of the Committee at its eleventh and twelfth sessions.

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* Official Records of the General Assembly, forty-eighth session, Supplement No. 44 (A/48/44 and Add.1).